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Subject: EDF blog post: EPA IRIS program receives high marks from the National Academies

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EPA IRIS program receives high marks from the National Academies

By Jennifer McPartland / Bio / Published: April 16, 2018

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Last week the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) published its review of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) program, concluding that the program has made strong progress in implementing NAS' earlier recommendations. As noted by the chair of the NAS committee that led the review, "The changes in the IRIS program over such a short period of time are impressive."

As I've blogged about before, IRIS is a non-regulatory program that provides critical chemical reviews and scientific expertise that help ensure the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the land where we live, work, and play are safe. Offices across EPA and elsewhere in the federal government rely on IRIS, as do states, local governments, and affected communities (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

The new NAS report comes four years after its 2014 review, which noted the substantial progress made by IRIS in addressing recommendations from a more critical 2011 review of a draft IRIS assessment of formaldehyde. It is worth noting that half of the committee members involved in the new IRIS review served on the committee that authored the 2011 review. [Read More »](#)